

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

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TAGS: NATO, MILI, ECON

SUBJECT: COMMON FUNDING FORMULAS

1. A KEY ELEMENT OF THE INITIATIVES OFFERED BY SECDEF AT THE RECENT DPC IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF MULTI-LATERAL FUNDING MECHANISMS TO MEET NEW COLLECTIVE NEED AND SUPPORT SEPARATE COMMON PROGRAMS. THIS IS ENVISIONED AS SEVERAL COMMON FUNDS ALONG THE LINES OF THE INFRA-STRUCTURE FORMULA FOR OTHER IMPORTANT COLLECTIVE PROGRAMS SUCH AS A WRM STOCKPILE FUND, A TRAINING AND EXERCISE FUND, AN EW PROGRAM FUND.

2. A REASONABLE AND PROMISING APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH FUNDING MECHANISMS WOULD BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BASIC, OBJECTIVE COST-SHARING FORMULA AS A FRAMEWORK ON WHICH TO HANG THE UNIQUE SUBJECTIVE COST
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ELEMENTS OF PARTICULAR SYSTEMS. A UNIVERSAL BUT ADJUSTABLE COST-SHARING FORMULA, PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON BY ALL ALLIES AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NOT ONLY CAPACITY TO PAY BUT GENERAL SECURITY BENEFITS DERIVED FROM PARTICIPATION IN ALLIANCE-WIDE PROGRAMS, MIGHT AID IN REDUCING PROTRACTED AND INCONCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS ATTENDED THE AEW MATTER.

3. WE REGARD SUCH A FORMULA AS DIFFICULT BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO DERIVE. OBVIOUSLY, HOWEVER, IT COULD NOT BE A "US FORMULA"--IT WOULD HAVE TO BE FORMULATED AS A COLLECTIVE EFFORT. ACCORDINGLY, WE SOLICIT MISSION'S VIEWS ON WHAT ORGAN OF NATO MIGHT BEST ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT (POSSIBLY THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE), AS WELL AS VIEWS ON THE GENERAL CONCEPT OF A BASIC COST-SHARING FORMULA.

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